and 1 50% in case of Maize. The post harvest wastage is upto 25 40% in case of fruits and vegetables.

(c) In order to minimise post harvest losses at farm level the Ministry of Food is implementing a regular plan scheme known as Save Grain Compaign which organises training, demonstration and publicity programmes in selected villages. The National Horticulture Board has taken up a massive programme for creating post harvest infrastructure during the 8th Plan. The programme includes establishment of Grading Packing Centre in producing areas, development of cold chain including refrigerated transport pre-cooling units and cold storages, improving shelf life by way of waxing, etc. The Board is also assisting various organisations like co-operative societies, farmers' organisations, Agro.-Hort. Corporations, public/private limited companies for creating post harvest infrastructure facilities for horticultural produce.

Cultivation cost of Tobacco and Cotton in Guntur and Prakasam Districts

1540. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton in Guntur and Prakasam districts ;

(b) what is the per acre yield as well as cost of production; and

(c) what steps are taken to increase the production and to reduce the cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) The estimates of cost of cultivation of tobacco and cotton at district level are not prepared and therefore not available.

(b) The per hectare yield of the two crops in two districts during 1992-93 is given below:

S. No.	District	Yield (Kg./Ha.)	
		Tobacco	Cotton
1	Guntur	1,271	368
2	Prakasam	1,007	319

The cost of Production at district level is not available.

(c) In order to step up production of all types of cotton, Government of India have launched a Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) which is being implemented in 11 major cotton growing States including Andhra Pradesh. Under the Scheme, financial assistance is being provided for propagating the use of pheromone traps and NPV, supply of Sprinkler sets and contingencies. Similarly for tobacco, besides development of high yielding varieties, the Tobacco Board has been implementing schemes for increasing productivity of virginia tobacco. Under these schemes, farmers are assisted for balanced use of fertilisers, pest control, sprinkler sets, topping/suckericides, insulation of curing barns, etc. These schemes in cotton and tobacco are aimed at increasing productivity leading to decrease in unit cost of production.

Shortfall in Production of Foodgrains

1541. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any shortfall in the production of foodgrain during the current year ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) According to the present assessment, the production of foodgrains during 1993-94 is expected to be close to the last year's record level of 180.01 million tonnes.

Probability of Decline in Production of Oilseeds

1542. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the oilseed production is likely to fall significanctly short of the target ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?